

I. IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace the pending claims with the following claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented manuscript review and publication determination process, for determining whether a manuscript is suitable for publication, comprising:

storing in a central computer system a set of users;

storing in said central computer system a set of rolls with respect to manuscripts, including author roll, editor roll, associate editor roll, and reviewer roll, and storing rights and limitations on rights associated with each of those roles, as follows:

(1) author roll, rights to submit, view, and obtain status information; no right to associate any role with any other user, and no right to recommend for or against publication;

(2) editor roll, rights to associate with other users role of associate editor or reviewer; right to approve or deny publication, and right to obtain status information;

(3) associate editor roll, rights to associate with other users role of reviewer; right to approve or deny publication; right to obtain status information; no right to associate with another user roll of editor, no right to associate with another user roll of associate editor;

(4) reviewer roll, right to recommend for or against publication; right to obtain status information; no right to associate any roll with any other user; and no right to approve or deny publication;

receiving, at said central computer system, from an electronic communications network, manuscript data defining a first manuscript, including at least one of text data, audio data, and video data;

storing, by said central computer system, said first manuscript in a database;

storing, by said central computer system, a first manuscript identification in association with said first manuscript;

prompting a potential reviewer for agreement to review said manuscript;

associating, in said central computer system, a first user of said set of users with said first manuscript and roll of editor, herein after editor;

associating in said central computer system with a second user of said set of users with said first manuscript and a roll of associate editor, herein after first associate editor;

associating in said central computer system with a third user of said set of users with said first manuscript and a roll of reviewer, herein after first reviewer;

associating in said central computer system with a fourth user of said set of users with said first manuscript and a roll of author, herein after author;

receiving, at said central computer system, from said electronic communications network,

a set of tokens specifying a specific user and manuscript, said set of tokens including password, manuscript identification, and a remote address, and a prompt for prompted manuscript data for said first manuscript;

validating, at said central computer system, said set of tokens against data stored in said database by determining if said specific user has a role associated with said first manuscript authorizing transmission of said prompted manuscript data for said first manuscript to said specific user, and if validated, transmitting, from said central computer system, said prompted manuscript data, via said electronic communications network, to said remote address of said specific user;

receiving, at said central computer system, from a reviewer, one of a recommendation to publish and a recommendation not to publish said first manuscript;

receiving, at said central computer system, from said first associate editor, one of a decision to publish and a decision not to publish said first manuscript;

~~storing agreement data received from said potential reviewer, said agreement data including at least one of agreement to review and disagreement to review said manuscript;~~
said central computer system storing a final decision whether to publish said manuscript.

2-35. (Canceled)

36. (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising:

receiving, at said central computer system, from a remote terminal, an indication from said first reviewer that said first reviewer declines to review said first manuscript; and

transmitting, automatically in response to said indication from said first reviewer, from said central computer system, over said electronic communications network, to an address associated with another one of said set of users, a signal prompting said another one of said set of users, to review said first manuscript.

37. (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising said central computer system storing at least one date on which either a reviewer is assigned and status data for said first manuscript changes.

38. (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further

comprising said central computer system storing a date on which said central computer system at least one of receives said first manuscript, prompts a reviewer, and receives agreement data to review said manuscript from said first reviewer.

39 (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising one of said first reviewer and said first associate editor viewing said manuscript on a monitor of a remote terminal.

40. (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising said first reviewer transmitting from a remote terminal via said electronic communications network to said central computer system a recommendation whether to publish said first manuscript.

41. (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising said first associated editor transmitting from a remote terminal via said electronic communications network to said central computer system a decision to publish said first manuscript.

42. (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, further comprising said editor transmitting from a remote terminal via said electronic communications network to said central computer system said final decision whether to publish said first manuscript.

43. (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, wherein said central computer system is programmed with web server software such that it responds to prompts from prompts from Web browsers from said set of user transmitted to it.

44. (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, wherein said database is a relational database program.

45. (New) The computer implemented method according to claim 1, wherein said database is a version of Access, SQL Server, Sybase, and Oracle.

46. (New) A computer implemented manuscript review and publication determination system, for determining whether a manuscript is suitable for publication, comprising:

a central computer system storing a set of users;

said central computer system storing a set of rolls with respect to manuscripts, including author roll, editor roll, associate editor roll, and reviewer roll, and storing rights and limitations on rights associated with each of those roles, as follows:

(1) author roll rights to submit, view, and obtain status information; and no right to associate any role with any other user, no right to recommend for or against publication;

(2) editor roll rights to associate with other users role of associate editor or reviewer; approve or deny publication, and obtain status information;

(3) associate editor roll rights to associate with other users role of reviewer; approve or deny publication; obtain status information; and no right to associate with another user roll of editor, associate with another user roll of associate editor;

(4) reviewer roll rights to recommend for or against publication; obtain status information; and no right to associate any roll with any other user;

said central computer system designed to receive, from an electronic communications network, manuscript data defining a first manuscript, including at least one of text data, audio data, and video data;

said central computer system designed to store said first manuscript in a database;

said central computer system designed to store a first manuscript identification in association with said first manuscript;

said central computer system designed to associate a first user of said set of users with said first manuscript and roll of editor, herein after editor;

said central computer system designed to associate a second user of said set of users with said first manuscript and a roll of associate editor, herein after first associate editor;

said central computer system designed to associate a third user of said set of users with said first manuscript and a roll of reviewer, herein after first reviewer;

said central computer system designed to associate a fourth user of said set of users with said first manuscript and a roll of author, herein after author;

said central computer system designed to receive, from said electronic communications network, a set of tokens specifying a specific user and manuscript, said set of tokens including password, manuscript identification, and a remote address, and a prompt for prompted

manuscript data for said first manuscript;

said central computer system designed to validate said set of tokens against data stored in said database by determining if said specific user has a role associated with said first manuscript authorizing transmission of said prompted manuscript data for said first manuscript to said specific user, and if validated, said central computer system designed to transmit said prompted manuscript data, via said electronic communications network, to said remote address of said specific user;

said central computer system designed to receive from a reviewer, one of a recommendation to publish and a recommendation not to publish said first manuscript;

said central computer system designed to receive from said first associate editor, one of a decision to publish and a decision not to publish said first manuscript; and

said central computer system designed to store a final decision whether to publish said manuscript.

47. (New) The system of claim 46, wherein said central computer system is designed to receive from a remote terminal, an indication from said first reviewer that said first reviewer declines to review said first manuscript; and

said central computer system is designed to transmit automatically in response to said indication from said first reviewer, over said electronic communications network, to an address associated with another one of said set of users, a signal prompting said another one of said set of users, to review said first manuscript.

48. (New) The system of claim 46, wherein said central computer system is programmed to store at least one date on which a reviewer is assigned and status data for said first manuscript changes.

49. (New) The system of claim 46, wherein said central computer system is programmed to store a date on which said central computer system at least one of receives said first manuscript, prompts a reviewer, and receives agreement data to review said manuscript from said first reviewer.

50. (New) The system of claim 46, further comprising a remote terminal comprising a monitor and programmed to display to one of said first reviewer and said first associate editor

said manuscript.

51. (New) The system of claim 46, further comprising a remote terminal comprising a monitor and programmed to enable said first reviewer to transmit via said electronic communications network to said central computer system a recommendation whether to publish said first manuscript.

52. (New) The system of claim 46, further comprising a remote terminal comprising a monitor and programmed to enable said first associated editor to transmit via said electronic communications network to said central computer system a decision to publish said first manuscript.

53. (New) The system of claim 46, further comprising a remote terminal programmed to enable said editor to transmit from a remote terminal via said electronic communications network to said central computer system said final decision whether to publish said first manuscript.

54. (New) The system of claim 46 wherein said central computer system is programmed with web server software to respond to prompts received from one of said set of users.

55. (New) The system of claim 46 wherein said database is a relational database program.

56. (New) The system of claim 46 wherein said database is a version of Access, SQL Server, Sybase, and Oracle.

57. (New) A computer program product for implementing a manuscript review and publication determination process, for determining whether a manuscript is suitable for publication when installed on a central computer system, said computer program product stored on a physical medium, said computer program product storing instructions comprising:
storing in said central computer system a set of users;
storing in said central computer system a set of rolls with respect to manuscripts,

including author roll, editor roll, associate editor roll, and reviewer roll, and storing rights and limitations on rights associated with each of those roles, as follows:

(1) author roll rights to submit, view, and obtain status information; and no right to associate any role with any other user, no right to recommend for or against publication;

(2) editor roll rights to associate with other users role of associate editor or reviewer; approve or deny publication, and obtain status information;

(3) associate editor roll rights to associate with other users role of reviewer; approve or deny publication; obtain status information; and no right to associate with another user roll of editor, associate with another user roll of associate editor;

(4) reviewer roll rights to recommend for or against publication; obtain status information; and no right to associate any roll with any other user;

receiving, at said central computer system, from an electronic communications network, manuscript data defining a first manuscript, including at least one of text data, audio data, and video data;

storing, by said central computer system, said first manuscript in a database;

storing, by said central computer system, a first manuscript identification in association with said first manuscript;

associating, in said central computer system, a first user of said set of users with said first manuscript and roll of editor, herein after editor;

associating in said central computer system with a second user of said set of users with said first manuscript and a roll of associate editor, herein after first associate editor;

associating in said central computer system with a third user of said set of users with said first manuscript and a roll of reviewer, herein after first reviewer;

associating in said central computer system with a fourth user of said set of users with said first manuscript and a roll of author, herein after author;

receiving, at said central computer system, from said electronic communications network, a set of tokens specifying a specific user and manuscript, said set of tokens including password, manuscript identification, and a remote address, and a prompt for prompted manuscript data for said first manuscript;

validating, at said central computer system, said set of tokens against data stored in said database by determining if said specific user has a role associated with said first manuscript authorizing transmission of said prompted manuscript data for said first manuscript to said specific user, and if validated, transmitting, from said central computer system, said prompted

manuscript data, via said electronic communications network, to said remote address of said specific user;

receiving, at said central computer system, from a reviewer, one of a recommendation to publish and a recommendation not to publish said first manuscript;

receiving, at said central computer system, from said first associate editor, one of a decision to publish and a decision not to publish said first manuscript;

said central computer system storing a final decision whether to publish said manuscript.